

Tropical Storm/Hurricane Alert

This message expires on Saturday, November 6, 2010

Date: 4 November 2010

Subject: Tropical Storm Tomas

For inquiries about U.S. citizens affected by Hurricane Tomas, please email:

[TSTomasAmCitInquiry@state.gov](mailto:TSTomasAmCitInquiry@state.gov).

This Warden Message is issued to alert American citizens residing in or traveling to Cuba that:

- The Government of Cuba has issued a hurricane warning for the Cuban province of Guantanamo and a Tropical Storm warning for the provinces of Santiago de Cuba and Holguin.
- As of 11:00 this morning, the center of Tropical Storm Tomas was located near latitude 16.3 North longitude 76.1 west. Tomas is moving toward the north-northwest near 8 mph / 13 km/h. A turn toward the north and northeast with some increase in forward speed is expected over the next 48 hours.
- Current tracking maps and weather forecasts indicate that the center of the storm will pass near Haiti tonight and near or over extreme eastern Cuba on Friday.
- Tomas has maximum sustained winds near 45 mph / 75 km/h with higher gusts. Some strengthening is forecasted during the next 48 hours. Tropical-storm-force winds extend outward up to 85 miles / 140 km from the center.
- A dangerous storm surge will raise levels by as much as 1 to 3 feet above normal tide levels. Near the coast, the surge will be accompanied by large and destructive waves.
- Rainfall totals of 3 to 5 inches are possible over Eastern Cuba.



- For up-to-date information on the storm's track, please monitor local television and radio news channels. If you have access to Internet, we also recommend accessing the National Hurricane Center's website <http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/>. The Cuban Meteorological Institute provides Cuban specific weather information at <http://www.insmet.cu>.
- The U.S. Interests Section recommends that all United States citizens in Cuba register with the Section's American Citizens Services Unit. Travelers can register their visit in person or on-line by visiting the U.S. Interests Section's website at <http://havana.usinterestsection.gov/>. The U.S. Interests Section is located in Havana at Calzada between L and M Streets, Vedado; telephone (537) 833-3551 through 833-3559. Hours are Monday through Thursday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. In case of an after hours emergency the duty officer can be reached at (53) 5 280-5791.
- The U.S. Interests Section will continue to monitor this storm and will issue updated messages. U.S. citizens are urged to monitor media reports, take necessary precautions and follow all official instructions. U.S. citizens should carry their travel documents at all times (e.g. U.S. passport, birth certificate, picture ID's, etc.) or secure them in safe, waterproof locations. We also suggest that American citizens contact friends and family in the United States with updates about their whereabouts.

Additional information on hurricanes and storm preparedness may be found in the "Hurricane Season-Know Before You Go" pamphlet at: [http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis\\_pa\\_tw/cis\\_pa\\_tw\\_2915.html](http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/cis_pa_tw_2915.html), and on the "Natural Disasters" page of the Bureau of Consular Affairs' website at: [http://travel.state.gov/travel/tips/emergencies/emergencies\\_1207.html](http://travel.state.gov/travel/tips/emergencies/emergencies_1207.html). Updated information on travel in Cuba may be obtained from the Department of State by calling 1-888-407-4747 within the United States and Canada, or from overseas, 1-202-501-4444. These numbers are available from 8:00 am to 8:00 p.m., Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays).

Please continue to monitor local media and the U.S. Interests Section's website for updated information on this and other issues at, <http://havana.usinterestsection.gov>. For further information please consult the Country Specific Information Sheet for Cuba, available via the Internet at <http://travel.state.gov>.

For any emergencies involving American citizens, please contact the American Citizens Services (ACS) Unit of the U.S. Interests Section, Consular Section.